#### **UNCLASSIFIED**



# **CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER**

**24-HOUR REPORT** 

9 September 2022

## (U) CALIFORNIA

## (U) Miramar – Caltrans Finds Live Pipe Bomb Near I-15 On-Ramp

(U) A member of a freeway cleanup crew found a live pipe bomb yesterday alongside Interstate 15 in the Miramar area. The Caltrans worker made the discovery on an embankment next to the Miramar Road connector to the southbound side of the freeway at about 11:15 am, according to the California Highway Patrol. Authorities shut down the on-ramp, cleared people out of the immediate area and notified San Diego Fire-Rescue, which sent in the bomb squad. The ordnance-handling personnel determined that the seemingly homemade device — made out of a rusty, roughly 10-inch-long metal cylinder — contained explosive material, and they safely detonated it at the scene.

SOURCE: 8 September 2022, NBC San Diego

# (U) San Diego – Fugitive Placed on FBI's Ten Most Wanted Fugitives List

(U) The FBI San Diego Field Office, along with the US Attorney's Office in the Southern District of California, announced the addition of Michael James Pratt to the FBI's "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives" list for his alleged involvement in sex trafficking and production of child pornography. Pratt marks the 529th addition to the list. The FBI is offering a reward of up to \$100,000 for information leading to his arrest. Pratt is wanted for his alleged involvement in a conspiracy to recruit young adult women and minor girls to engage in commercial sex acts by force, fraud, and coercion. Pratt's pornography websites generated more than \$17 million in revenue.

SOURCE: 7 September 2022, FBI News

#### (U) Imperial Valley – Thirteen Charged in Takedown of Drug Trafficking Network

(U) In a coordinated multi-state takedown Wednesday, federal, state, and local law enforcement agents and officers arrested nine of thirteen defendants and executed six search warrants in Imperial County. During the investigation, law enforcement seized more than 119 pounds of methamphetamine and other illegal drugs and more than \$80,000 in cash. This Imperial Valley-based network allegedly smuggled multi-kilogram quantities of methamphetamine across the international border. The defendants then used cars, the US Mail, and commercial delivery services like FedEx to distribute that methamphetamine to sub-distributors located throughout Imperial County as well as in the state of Minnesota. In addition, the network used a corrections officer to smuggle fentanyl and contraband cellular telephones into Centinela State Prison.

SOURCE: 8 September 2022, US DOJ

## (U) NATIONAL

## (U) Ohio – Fourteen Charged for Roles in Youngstown Area Drug Trafficking Organization

(U) Youngstown – Fourteen individuals were charged in a forty-six-count indictment with operating a drug trafficking organization that allegedly distributed crack cocaine, cocaine, heroin, fentanyl and fentanyl analogues throughout the Youngstown area. Eleven of the fourteen individuals named in the indictment were arrested by federal, state and local law enforcement authorities.

SOURCE: 7 September 2022, <u>US DOJ</u>

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#### (U) INTERNATIONAL

## (U) Haiti - One Dead as Protests Against the Banking System and Government Turn Violent

(U) Port-au-Prince – Violence broke out in Haiti's capital and several other cities Wednesday leaving at least one dead as demonstrators took to the streets to protest against gang violence and the high cost of living, targeting the country's banking system and Interim Prime Minister Ariel Henry. The city of Jérémie, businesses were looted and bursts of automatic gunfire were reported as protesters clashed with police. Protests also occurred in the cities of St. Marc, Jacmel and Port-de-Paix, where at least three people were injured by gunshots.

SOURCE: 8 September 2022, Miami Herald

## (U) Italy – Bomb Squad Conduct Controlled Explosion After IED Found Next to Lebanese Consulate

(U) Milan – Two suspicious packages were discovered in Milan this morning, one placed on the windows of the headquarters of travel agency Moby-Tirrenia and the other in the street, next to the Lebanese consulate. The packages turned out to be homemade incendiary devices, consisting of batteries connected by cables and activated with two timers. The packages had a note with an inscription in Arabic that read, "Click in three minutes" and a telephone number. The area was evacuated until the blasting operations carried out by the bomb squad were completed.

SOURCE: 9 September 2022, Milan Today

#### (U) Mali – Mali Launches Air Strikes After Militants Seize Village

(U) Bamako – The Malian military launched air strikes Wednesday near a village that witnesses said had been seized by extremists with ties to the Islamic State of Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS). Witnesses reported the takeover of Talataye, in Mali's northern Gao region on Tuesday. The development has renewed fears extremists would again expand their reach following the 15 August departure of French troops after nearly a decade of battling insurgents.

SOURCE: 7 September 2022, Associated Press

#### (U) Turkey – Erdogan Says Senior ISIS Militant Captured in Turkey

(U) Ankara – Turkish police and intelligence have captured a senior member of ISIS, President Erdogan announced. Erdogan identified the captured operative as Bashar Hattab Ghazal Al Sumaidai and known by his code name Abu Zeyd. The militant was seized in a joint operation carried out by police and the Turkish intelligence agency who were monitoring his connections in Syria and Istanbul and had received intelligence that he would enter Turkey illegally.

SOURCE: 9 September 2022, Associated Press

#### (U) United Kingdom – Manchester IRA 1996 bomb: Man arrested at Birmingham Airport

(U) Birmingham – A man has been arrested in connection with the 1996 Manchester IRA bombing, police have said. While no-one was killed in the blast, about 250 people were injured in what was described as the UK mainland's largest bomb since World War II. The suspect was held at Birmingham Airport on suspicion of terrorism offences. No-one has been charged over the attack on 15 June 1996. SOURCE: 9 September 2022, BBC

- (U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.
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